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THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT

Note by the secretariat

on the proceedings of the open-ended working group on the right to development, submitted in accordance with Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/79

1. The present note is submitted in accordance with Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/79 of 28 April 1999, in which the Commission inter alia welcomed the decision by the Economic and Social Council to authorize the establishment of an open-ended working group and the appointment of an independent expert with a mandate to study the current state of progress in the implementation of the right to development.

2. The independent expert's study, contained in document E/CN.4/1999/WG.18/2, was submitted to the open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights on the right to development, which met in Geneva on 13 and 14 September 1999 and decided to suspend its deliberations until such time there was a consensus candidate to conduct its deliberations.

3. Following intensive consultations, the working group met in resumed session on 24 February 2000 and formally elected Mr. Mohamed-Salah Dembri, the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations Office in Geneva, as its Chairperson. The working group then again suspended its deliberations to allow the Chairperson to conduct consultations with all stakeholders on the format of substantive issues to be considered by the working group.

4. At its current session, the Commission on Human Rights will be called upon to endorse a procedural resolution submitted by the Chairperson of the working group after appropriate consultations with regional groups of States.